

**Brown v. Board of  
Education  
National Historic Site**

National Park Service  
Department of the Interior



**BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  
JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM**





## **BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

**Welcome!** This building was a school for African American children during a time in American history when black children were not allowed to go to school with white children.

This separation of children in schools was called segregation. Segregation was allowed in other places too. Stores, parks, and pools are a few examples of other places that were segregated.

On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court declared an end to segregation in public schools.

As a Junior Ranger, part of your job is to treat others fairly. By treating everyone fairly the harm that segregation caused can be erased and everyone will be treated equally. Ask a parent or adult you know to join you in your Junior Ranger explorations.

**To complete the booklet,  
make sure your PDF reader can fill out forms and draw.**



## How to earn your Junior Ranger Badge and Certificate

### Junior Rangers (Ages 5-8)

Watch the ***Fair is Fair*** video in the Program Room.

*(Ask the Park Ranger in the visitor center to play the video for you).*

Complete at least four activities in the booklet and show your work to the Park Ranger in the visitor center.

Activities with  symbol are recommended for you.

### Junior Rangers (Ages 9 & Up)

Watch the ***Fair is Fair*** video in the Program Room or ***Race and the American Creed*** in the Auditorium.

*(Ask the Park Ranger in the visitor center to play the video for you).*

Complete at least six activities in the booklet and show your work to the Park Ranger in the visitor center.

Activities with  symbol are recommended for you.

*Adults can assist the Junior Ranger in the activities but please allow the Junior Ranger a chance to work on the activities on their own*

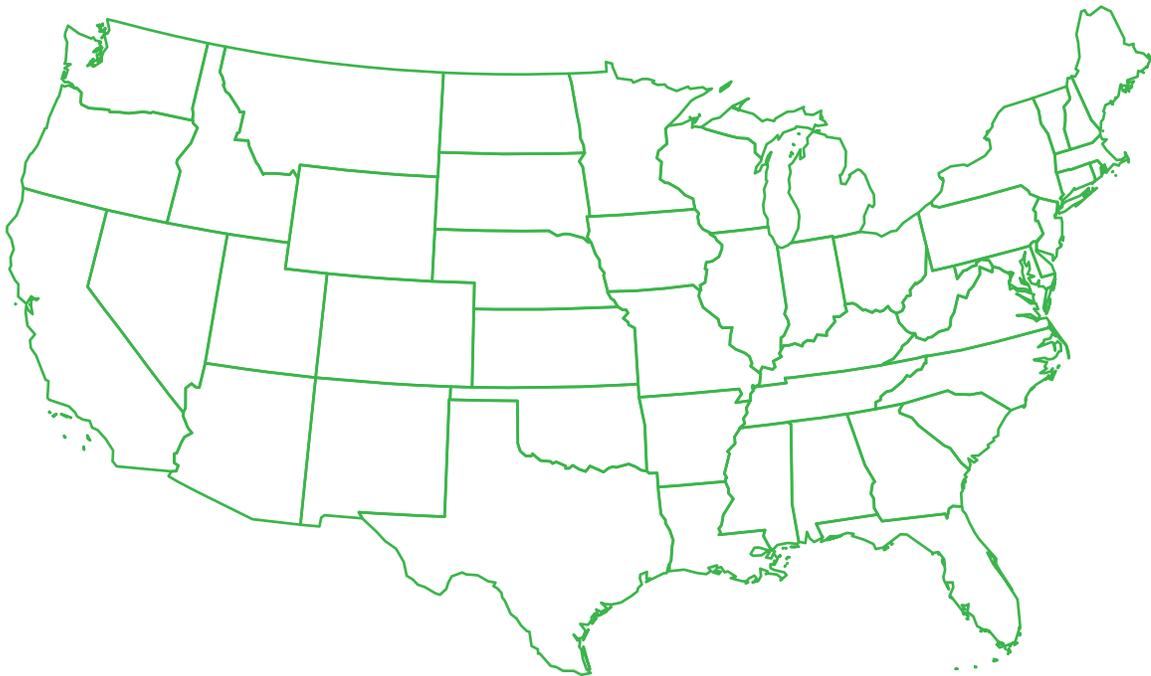


The U.S. Supreme Court case that ended segregation in schools was not just about Topeka, Kansas, and the Monroe School. Four other states were involved in this fight against segregation. Together they ended the unfair practice of segregation in schools.



### For this activity do the following:

- On the map, draw a  where the Monroe school is located.
- There were four other cases involved in the Brown v. Board of Education U.S. Supreme Court case, identify their location on the map with a .
- Draw a house where you live and draw the route you took to get to the Monroe school.



### Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up)

- Color in the states where segregation was mandatory, prohibited or permissible. *Ask a Ranger to explain mandatory, prohibited and permissible segregation if you need help.*



mandatory



prohibited



permissible

- How many states had no laws regarding segregation?



*For help, use the "Five Cases" exhibit in the Road to Brown gallery.*



## Welcome to the kindergarten room!



This room looks like it did in the 1950s. Compare it to your own Kindergarten classroom while answering the questions on the next page!

Ages 5-8 answer 4 or more questions

Ages 9 and up answer all the questions

Read the page below to help you!

Playing is one of the most powerful ways kids learn. While there were

books, lessons and homework, teachers made sure kids could have fun throughout the day. Teachers even had to know how to play the piano so kids could have music class in the same room.



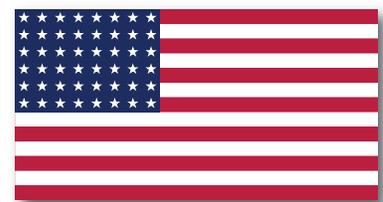
The fireplace in the Kindergarten room was not used for heat, light, or even at all. Classrooms at Monroe Elementary had a fancy radiator for heat.

Most families couldn't afford radiators like the school used. They had fireplaces instead. So the fireplace in Kindergarten was meant to bring a little bit of home into the classroom.



Kindergarten was the first time most kids were away from home. These students had their own bathroom in the corner of the classroom. No need to worry about hall-passes or Bigger kids.

Throughout the *Brown v. Board of Education* case, the U.S. Flag only had 48 stars. More stars were added in 1959 and 1960. One star for each state in the union. Thirteen stripes for the original 13 colonies.





# Kindergarten Room

## Short Answer!

- 1.) Teachers believed \_\_\_\_\_ was the most powerful learning tool available.
- 2.) As a kindergartener, why would you like to have a separate bathroom from the Bigger kids in the rest of the school?
- 3.) How does sitting around a fireplace make you feel, and how would this help a kindergartner on their first day of school?
- 4.) Topeka Kindergarten teachers played music on the piano in their classrooms. How is that similar or different to music class in your school today?

## True/False!

Ages 6 and younger answer true or false, ages 7 and older also explain your answer.

5.) Kindergarteners in the 1950's used real hammer and nails to build projects with wood. Explain: Is that different from kindergarten today? If so, how?

6.) There are 48 stars on the flag in this room. Explain: how does that compare to the U.S. Flag today?

Bonus: What were the last two states to enter the union?





# Segregated Activities

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Schools were not the only places that were segregated during the time of the *Brown v. Board of Education* case. Use the exhibits to find out some of the activities that were segregated.

## For this activity do the following:

- On the drawing below, circle the activities you see that were segregated.



For help, use the “Segregated Activities” exhibit in the *Road to Brown* gallery.





# Myth Busting

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As a Junior Ranger, it is important to research the past in order to know and understand the facts about a historical event. Your job is to bust the myths from the history of the *Brown v. Board of Education* case.

Below are eight possible myths about the case, use the exhibits to discover if they are fact or fiction. If you discover a myth, bust it by telling what really happened.



**Junior Rangers (Ages 5-8) decide whether the statement is fact or fiction.**



**Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and up) bust the myths and explain what happened.**

- The first legal challenge to segregated public schools took place in 1849.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**
- Oliver Brown single-handedly sued the Topeka School Board on behalf of his daughter.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**
- The Brown case involved nearly 200 plaintiffs.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**
- The United States Supreme Court combined five cases known as *Brown v. Board of Education*.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**
- It was Thurgood Marshall's idea to organize cases against segregated public school.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**
- The NAACP Goal in *Brown* was solely about integrating public schools.  
**Fact or Fiction? What really happened?**



*For help, use exhibits in the Education and Justice Gallery.*



# The Monroe School

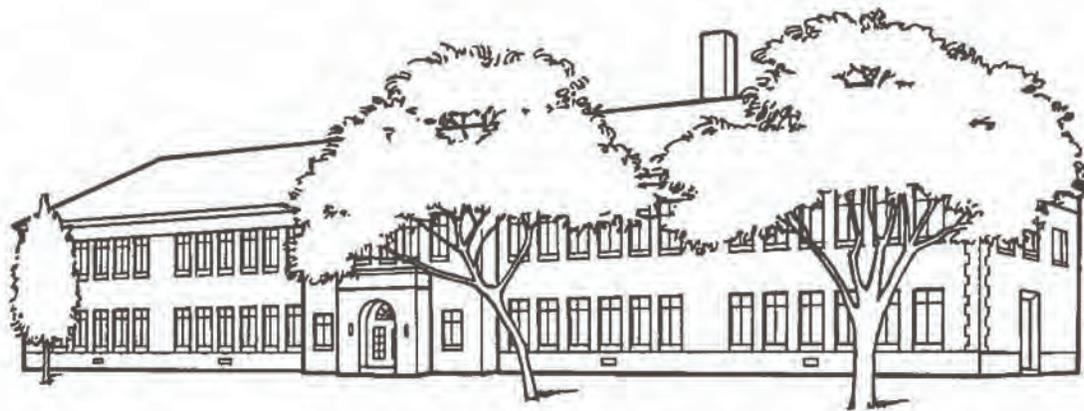
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The Monroe School was built in 1926 as a segregated African American school. The school was closed in the 1970s and was used for a time by several businesses until it was acquired by the National Park Service. Following several years of research and renovation, the Monroe School was reopened as Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site on the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2004.



In the space provided, draw a picture of your school and compare it to the Monroe School.



**Compare:** How is your school similar to or different from the Monroe School?

**Similar**

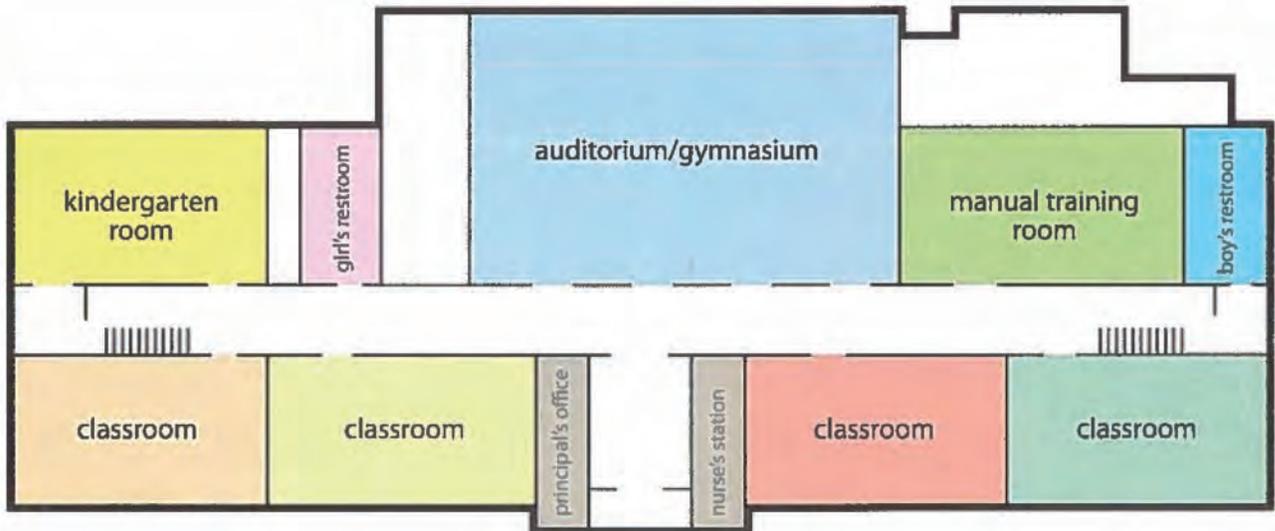
**Different**





# Find Your Way Around The School

The Monroe School in 1954 was very similar to the present layout of the building today. The first map is the floor plan of the school in 1954 and the second map is the present floor plan.



**Junior Rangers ages 9 and up, ask a Ranger the following questions:**

- What is a Manual Training Room?
- What activities were in the auditorium?
- What was upstairs when the building was a school?
- What is upstairs today?



**For this activity do the following:**

Match the numbers with the room description to the correct number on the floor plan.

**Program Room**

**The Legacy of Brown v. Board of Education gallery**

**Boys Restroom**

**Girls Restroom**

**Bookstore**

**Kindergarten Room**

**The Road to Brown v. Board of Education gallery**

**Race and the American Creed**

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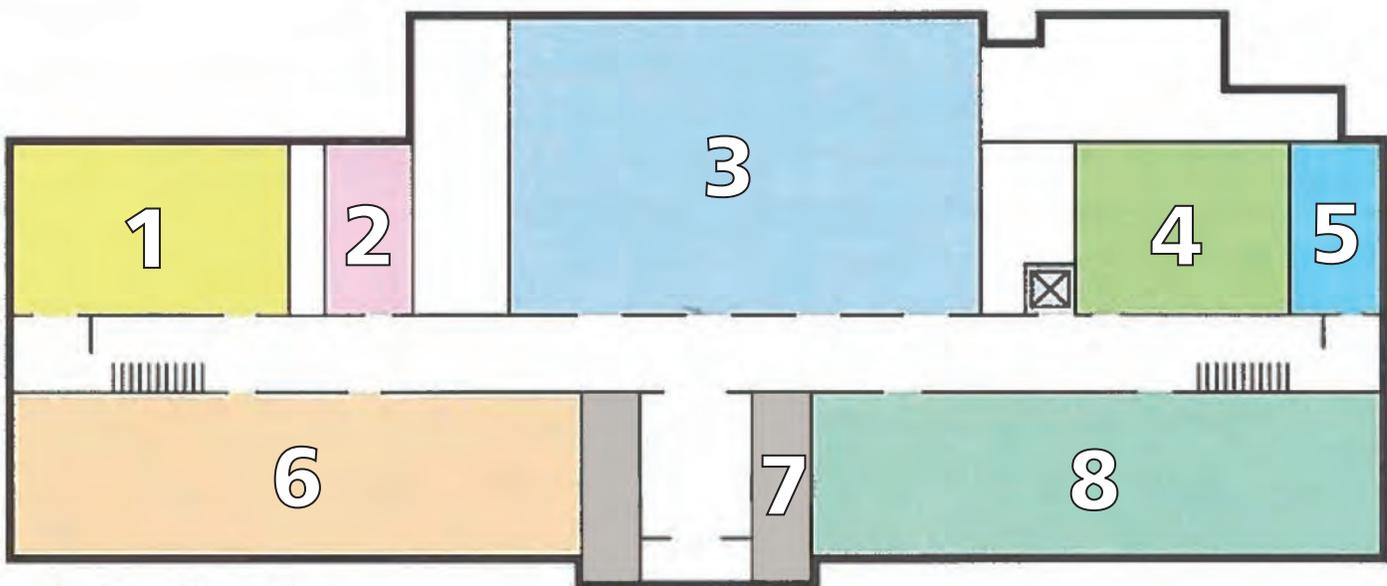
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*Floor Plan of Monroe School now*





# Word Search

Find the words hidden in the puzzle then match the numbers to the correct definition of the word. The words may run up, down, backward, or diagonal.

C P A V U B H Y S P Z S  
P I L K G A C F N U E E  
C N V A E C W U N J Q G  
A E K I I P D Y U B U R  
A U D S L N O S O E A E  
N P S W O R T T Y N L G  
C C L D Q I I I X O I A  
G G A V C V K G F I T T  
B V R E B N W L H F Y I  
O P P O R T U N I T Y O  
E O R N O M G V V N S N  
N A T I O N A L P A R K

## Word to find

1. Civil Rights
2. Equality
3. Justice
4. Monroe
5. NAACP
6. National Park
7. Opportunity
8. Plaintiff
9. Segregation
10. Topeka

## Matching

- \_\_\_\_\_ the condition of being just, fair, and equal
- \_\_\_\_\_ the separation of a race or group from another
- \_\_\_\_\_ fundamental rights that belong to individuals because of citizenship
- \_\_\_\_\_ capitol city of Kansas and the town where 1 of the 5 school desegregation cases originated
- \_\_\_\_\_ a person or group who begins a lawsuit by claiming damages against the defendant
- \_\_\_\_\_ treating people all the same
- \_\_\_\_\_ an area of special historical or scenic importance maintained by the government
- \_\_\_\_\_ a segregated elementary school until 1954 which is now a National Historic Site
- \_\_\_\_\_ founded in 1909 to work for equality for African Americans
- \_\_\_\_\_ a chance for progress or advancement





# Fair or Unfair

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**Circle if you believe the situation is fair or unfair.**

**Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up):** Explain how to make unfair situations fair.



A school bus for some children is provided but others can not ride the bus, even though the bus drives past their house everyday.

**What would you do to make it fair?**

**Fair**

**Unfair**

Some children go to a school in a different town but others go to the school in their neighborhood.

**What would you do to make it fair?**

**Fair**

**Unfair**

A school is old and too small to hold all of the students so they have classes in a school bus but other students go to new schools with plenty of room for its students.

**What would you do to make it fair?**

**Fair**

**Unfair**

Students in one school get new textbooks but students in a different school have to use the old books from the other schools.

**What would you do to make it fair?**

**Fair**

**Unfair**

Students on a play ground will not play with another group of students because they look or act differently from them.

**What would you do to make it fair?**

**Fair**

**Unfair**



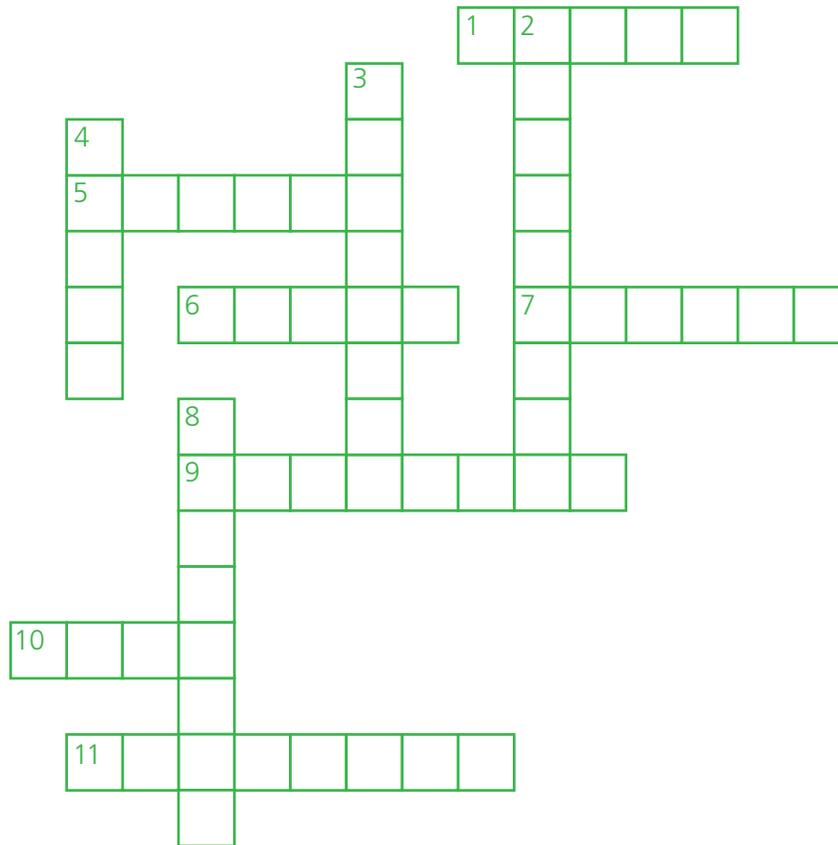


# Crossword Puzzle

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**Use the clues to help solve puzzle.** There are more words in the list than in the puzzle, so choose carefully. Try to solve it by yourself but if you need help ask an adult or a Park Ranger for assistance.



## Possible Words

ACLU  
Thurgood  
Massachusetts  
Sumner  
Briggs  
Kansas  
Martin  
NAACP  
Ranger  
Civil  
Monroe  
Equality  
Crow  
Marshall  
Amendment  
Virginia  
Deleware  
Brown

### Across

- Civil Rights organization
- Junior \_\_\_\_\_, a young person training to be a member of the National Park Service.
- \_\_\_\_ Rights, fundamental rights belonging to individuals.
- Historic site that was a segregated school
- Fairness.
- Jim \_\_\_\_\_, Laws that mandated segregation.
- Lawyer for the NAACP

### Down

- The 14th \_\_\_\_\_ was used to argue the case for equal rights.
- The State where The Davis v. County School Board case came from.
- The U.S. Supreme Court case was name after this person.
- The state where The Belton v. Gebhart case came from.





# Junior Ranger

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## Interview a Park Ranger

- What is your job?
- What do you like about your job?
- What are some ways that a Junior Ranger can show fairness and kindness?
- How can a Junior Ranger help preserve and educate others about Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site?
- Ask your own question for a Park Ranger?

## Junior Ranger Responsibilities

Junior Rangers are responsible for taking care of national parks and helping those who need assistance. As a Junior Ranger, it is your duty to protect and educate others about the National Park Service and treat everyone with kindness.

**Answer the questions about the responsibilities of a Junior Ranger by circling an answer and explain why you chose that answer. Ask an adult or Park Ranger for help.**

Does a Junior Ranger exclude others from playing with them during recess? **Yes** **No**  
**Why or Why not?**

Does a Junior Ranger bring food, drinks and gum into an historic site? **Yes** **No**  
**Why or Why not?**

Does a Junior Ranger say "Please" and "Thank You"? **Yes** **No**  
**Why or Why not?**

Does a Junior Ranger pick up litter even if it is not their own? **Yes** **No**  
**Why or Why not?**





# Junior Ranger

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## Congratulations!

- Now that you have finished your training, take this book to the Park Ranger at the visitor center desk and they will check it.
- After the Park Ranger certifies your completion, recite and sign the Junior Ranger Pledge.
- Receive your Junior Ranger Badge

### The Junior Ranger Pledge

“As a Junior Ranger, I will try to explore and preserve national park sites, treat others fairly and to share what I've learned today.”

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Junior Ranger

Date

---

Park Ranger

Date

*Brown v. Board of Education*

National Historic Site

*Official Junior Ranger Certificate*

Issued To:

\_\_\_\_\_

RANGER:



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_





**National Park Service**  
**Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site**

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[www.nps.gov/brvb](http://www.nps.gov/brvb)

Booklet by NPS / Preston Webb